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File Code: 2730/7710

Date: May 1, 1998

Mr. Richard B. Davis
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Planning and Environmental Branch
P.O. Box 25201
Raleigh, NC 27611-5201

Dear Mr. Davis:

The proposed State Highway Project for the construction of US 70 (Havelock Bypass) in Craven County, North Carolina involves National Forest lands within the boundary of the Croatan National Forest. Since this is a Federal-Aid project, a determination of the applicability of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, 23 USC 138, is required.

The National Forest System lands affected by the proposed project are presently designated and utilized for multiple use pruposes under the Multiple Use Sustained Yeild Act. The management of these lands is directed by the Croatan/Uwharrie Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as required by the National Forest Management Act.

This document recognizes that the Forest Service is the Agency responsible for coordinating the resource use and values of National Forest lands and for determining the proper use of such lands in accordance with the purposes for which the lands were acquired and reserved. This document does not subordinate the use and/or managment of the lands in question to a single resource, nor does it limit or affect in any way the authority of the Forest Service in connection with the proper administration and protection of National Forest System Land.

The proposed highway project does not require the use of lands from any presently used or planned park or recreational area within the Croatan National Forest. The project does not encroach on any special interest areas, preserves, sanctuaries, reservations or other specially designated lands established by Congress. The project will not affect any historic site on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, nor will it require the use of lands fro any historic site of state or local significance.

The proposed State Project to construct the US 70 Bypass (TIP #R-1015) located in Craven County, North Carolina, has been reivewed against the criteria of Seciton 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (28 USC 138), as amended. With this, I have determined that this project does not encroach on or use land form any of the types of specially designated areas described above and consideration under Section 4(f) is not required.

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Sincerely,

JOHN F. RAMEY

Forest Supervisor